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1981-1982

# 1981-82 Annual Report

## The Social Planning & Research Council

of Hamilton and District

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A United Way Member Agency







# President's Report

In 1981, the Social Planning and Research Council celebrated its 20th anniversary with a dinner honouring its past presidents and executive directors. The program was meaningful. Together the staff, officers and members reviewed twenty years of accomplishment and growth for the S.P.R.C.

Another year has passed and the Council continues to grow stronger, nurtured by a fine and devoted staff and a committed and supportive lay membership.

Four significant events have occurred since our last Annual Meeting:

1. We moved to our offices at 155 James Street South. Our new quarters make us accessible to the handicapped for the first time in many years. We share space with the Community Information Service, using a common Board Room and other facilities. We hope to jointly purchase a micro-computer and word processor in the future. In times of restraint, sharing resources is a good policy. We thank the C.I.S. and their board for joining with us in this cooperative venture.
2. We are asking our membership to adopt a membership fee for the first time. Because of inflation, our operating costs have increased faster than our revenues. The membership fee will help us to handle our increased costs of printing and mailing. We urge each of you to help us solicit more members during our 1982 membership campaign.
3. The Council continued to work as active participants in the political arena. We entered this year in the midst of controversy concerning the allocation of Regional social service dollars and, in our opinion, a satisfactory solution was reached.

That issue was very quickly replaced by the controversy surrounding the Elevated Rapid Transit Project. Our research staff worked very hard at identifying the pros and cons of the proposed system and as a result, we presented a brief to Regional Council which outlined our reasons for opposing the project. In addition, we took an active role in the drafting of the Access to Information Bylaw adopted by the Region.



4. Our United Way allocation was cut significantly due to the campaign shortfall. The S.P.R.C. does not have any reserve funds. We carefully budget and monitor our expenditures. The shortfall of more than \$20,000 in our 1982 budget was a severe jolt. Our executive worked long and hard to come up with a solution, albeit not a satisfactory one.

For someone who has been involved in the voluntary sector for as long as I have, this is a particularly tragic spectacle. We are beginning to see the dismantling of a service system that has taken this community over 100 years to develop and has involved the voluntary effort of thousands of our citizens. It is a service system in which we should have great pride for we, in Hamilton-Wentworth, have one of the best functioning voluntary sectors in the country. It has grown through the commitment of five generations of Hamiltonians.

The problem is not simply one of the last United Way Campaign. Voluntary donations in Canada have been in a decline for the past decade. This has been documented time and time again.

I believe that this is due to the fact that we have forgotten what the voluntary sector stands for. On the one hand, it stands for people helping people. It stands for the service it provides. It is, as it has always been, charity.

But it is more than that. It is, fundamentally, the community taking responsibility for its own problems, and with this responsibility comes the freedom to act according to its own dictates and conscience. A viable voluntary sector means that all of the important decisions are not made in Queen's Park and Ottawa. It means that important decisions are being made by the 1,000 local citizens who sit on the local boards of our voluntary sector agencies. They are people who live in this community, believe in this community and know what this community needs.

The voluntary sector is the original community "do-it-yourselfer". It thrived in a time when communities did not want the government to do everything. When communities and citizens wanted to be masters of their own ship and chart their own course. When citizens wanted to be involved in the decisions that affected their lives.



I believe that we have grown somewhat complacent during the past ten years. We tended to leave too much to Queen's Park and Ottawa and in the face of the idea of "letting government do it all", the voluntary sector has begun to wither on the vine.

This is the challenge we, members of the Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton and District, must face during the coming year. We must work to strengthen the voluntary sector along with the United Way and other agencies.

It is, after all, the voluntary sector that has been the innovator in social development. Together we can surmount our difficulties and reverse the trends of the past decade.

Marjorie Baskin



# The Year in Review

The past twelve months will not be remembered as one of Hamilton-Wentworth's better years. We have been caught in the same economic forces as the rest of the country and our economy is suffering as a result. This Region is particularly susceptible to these fluctuations as a result of our heavy dependence on the sensitive manufacturing industries.

Unemployment increased and our welfare rolls expanded. The flat economy of the fall was clearly expressed in the last United Way campaign and the many member agencies have been forced to "cut into the bone". Unfortunately, it is during these harsh times that the demand on agency services tends to escalate, so they are caught in the familiar "Catch-22" dilemma of facing their greatest demand when they have the least resources.

Economically, however, there have been some bright spots. The presence of the Convention Centre has succeeded in attracting hotel development to the Region with the announcement that Hilton and Ramada Inn will add 600 new rooms, thus providing the base for an expanded tourist industry. New employment expanded by 16% over last year, although these efforts were largely negated by layoffs in existing industries.

The value of industrial and commercial building permits was down 18% from 1980 but still well above the levels of 1977 to 1979. New tax revenue from industrial/commercial development was up almost 45% from 1980.

Housing in the Region, as elsewhere, continued to be in the doldrums in 1981 and the forecast is for little improvement in 1982. The Region will probably face 4 to 5 years of rather severe housing problems which have now appeared to reach crisis proportions.

With the release of the new Regional population projections in October, the Region has formally recognized the increasing inevitability of continued slow population growth. The impact of these projections have already been felt in the very controversial elevated rapid transit project and they will undoubtedly continue to have their effect on



major capital expenditure decisions for the years to come. For a Region which is so accustomed to planning for growth, these new projections have changed many of the ground rules and we are only now beginning to appreciate their implications both positive and negative.

Criminal occurrences in the Region increased by a moderate 4% in 1981 after a more sizeable increase of 12% in 1980. The number of homicides more than doubled, from 6 to 15 and the incidence of "break and enters" increased 12%. Robberies, thefts, assaults and drug offences all showed a decreasing incidence.

Despite our economic woes, the past twelve months have definitely been a fruitful period for citizen participation in the Region. The experiences of the Coalition on Sensible Transit has added to the list of examples that demonstrate the productive contribution that citizens' groups can make to very complex decisions. The passage of the new Regional Access to Information By-Law will serve to ease the work of citizens' groups in the future and the Region should be congratulated for adopting such a progressive piece of legislation.

In summary, then, housing and unemployment problems rose to the forefront during the past 12 months as sky-high interest rates pushed mortgages out of sight and dealt a severe blow to our economy. This blow has also fallen heavily on the shoulders of the social service sector as they face increased demand with fewer resources.

Transportation projects arose as major sources of controversy and served to highlight the almost desperate need for an overall Regional transportation policy. On the positive side, these controversies have also served to demonstrate the important role that citizens' organizations can play in the complex issues facing our political decision-makers.

Many of the economic problems which now face us are beyond the control of our Regional and municipal governments who can only attempt, through humane welfare policies, to cushion the blows upon local citizens. Housing and transportation problems, however, can be affected by local initiatives and they will undoubtedly continue to be a preoccupation of local groups in the months ahead.



# Executive Director's Report

It would be a bit of an understatement to say that 1981 was a busy year for the Social Planning and Research Council. The time devoted by both staff and volunteers at the Council went far beyond the call of duty as we continued in our efforts to deal with increasingly complex community issues.

In total, the S.P.R.C. was involved in well over 100 projects and consultations during the past twelve months and I think it is fair to say that we've come through this whirlwind of activity with our credibility intact and our reputation enhanced.

In my report, I will simply run through some of this work to provide an indication of the scope of these many activities.

In the area of **transportation**, planning time was allocated to the Citizens' Advisory Committee on Rapid Transit and considerable research time went into the preparation of our own brief to Regional Council on the proposed Elevated Rapid Transit System.

**Housing** issues came to the forefront in 1981 and we were involved in specific studies of lodging homes, zoning and bylaws for group homes, York Place and a major consultation on Adult Residential Care Facilities. Our Housing Task Force has just completed a major review of the non-profit housing situation in the Region and staff time has been allocated to the City of Hamilton's Apartment Development Sub-Committee.

Our efforts to promote increased citizen participation in the Region continued with our ongoing consultation to community groups and our work on the new Regional Access to Information By-Law. A significant amount of community development time was provided to the Coalition on Sensible Transit and the Save the Valley Committee as well as other citizen groups.

Our work on **funding policies for social services** involved major research and planning consultations to the United Way, the Ministry of Community and Social Services, Regional Social Services and the Canada Employment and Immigration Commission.



Staff worked closely with the City committee preparing the Master Plan for Culture and Recreation.

Our Planning Model Committee continued the work on slow growth **development** trends in the Region.

In the area of **community health**, Council staff were heavily involved in the design of the proposed East End Health Facility. Co-ordination with the District Health Council continued through our membership on their Community Co-ordination Sub-Group B and their new Addictions' Task Force. In addition, we completed special studies of the need for an expanded meals-on-wheels program and a Women's Detoxication Centre. Our Support Services Committee was the major force behind the recent successful Palliative Care Forum.

We also completed a major **community study** of the Heritage Green Development.

The Volunteer Bureau has completed a year of soul-searching and self-evaluation in order to change with the changing needs of the community. A major component of this effort was a survey of voluntary agencies in Hamilton-Wentworth to identify their volunteer needs. These results coupled with analyses of our own information, has resulted in a comprehensive plan for the Bureau over the next few years. Chief among the findings was the need for more effort in recruitment/training and a changed role in the screening and referral of volunteers.

In addition to this special planning process, the Bureau continued in its traditional role by interviewing 644 volunteers in response to 261 requests from agencies.

Work on such innovative pilot projects as Circle of Friends and the Core Project continued. In the former case, 37 volunteers were intensively trained to provide extensive support services to the South East Asian refugees. In the case of the Core project, 22 volunteers are presently undergoing special training to work as community resource workers for the staff of social service agencies.

Hamilton's Volunteer Week is now the most extensive and successful in the province. The planned decentralization to the individual communities has taken place and the Bureau now acts as a material development, co-ordination facility for the community committees. In the future, we hope to use Volunteer Week as the main event in a stepped up year-round campaign to promote volunteerism.



As usual, Bureau activities have relied heavily on the contributions of time and effort by the many volunteers who are involved in its activities. During 1981/82, 2100 hours of volunteer time or the equivalent of almost one and a half full time workers allowed the Bureau to maintain its high level of service during the past twelve months.

Financially, we completed 1981 with a balanced budget, although 1982 hit us with a blow – a reduction of over \$20,000 in our United Way allocation as a result of the campaign shortfall. In response, we have cut our overhead budget to the bone and held staff increases to 5%. The staff work week has been reduced to 4.5 days and, consequently, we face an inevitable reduction in our services during the rest of 1982. Consultations requests are increasingly being put on a waiting list. This has not yet resulted in any major problems as the community understands our predicament.

In summary, the past twelve months have been the best of times and they've been the worst of times. In that respect, it has been simply another year in the life of the Social Planning and Research Council. It has survived another twelve months on the incredibly dedicated shoulders of a tremendous staff and an unusually superb group of volunteers.

In the final analysis, it is that dedication which has kept the S.P.R.C. going for over 20 years and will, undoubtedly, sustain it in the years to come.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Council is grateful to its major funders – The United Way and the Region – for their financial support during 1981. Special thanks goes to The Hamilton Foundation for its donation towards Volunteer Week, and to those of our members who donated to the agency's Open House.



# Financial Activities

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1981

(with comparative figures for 1980)

	1981	1980
<b>REVENUES</b>		
Support from the public	215,855	197,046
Support from governments	52,575	50,052
Other	6,592	11,012
Total Revenues	<u>275,022</u>	<u>258,110</u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Salaries	207,990	194,038
Employee health and retirement benefits	14,337	13,644
Data processing and professional fees	3,295	2,302
Supplies	9,262	8,683
Telephone	6,295	5,367
Postage and Shipping	3,491	3,205
Occupancy	14,386	11,439
Outside Printing	2,071	1,859
Local Transportation	3,119	3,231
Conferences and Meetings	4,682	9,184
Subscriptions and Reference Publications	437	896
Organization Dues	559	571
Equipment and Fixed Assets	1,448	1,624
Rentals and Miscellaneous	1,778	1,321
Total Expenses	<u>273,150</u>	<u>257,364</u>
Excess of revenues over expenses for year	1,872	746
Surplus beginning of year	1,311	565
	3,183	1,311
Contribution to United Way in respect of surplus of prior year	(1,311)	
Surplus end of year	<u>1,872</u>	<u>1,311</u>

## AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Directors and Members of  
The Social Planning and Research Council  
of Hamilton and District:

We have examined the balance sheet of The Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton and District as at December 31, 1981 and the statements of financial activities for the year then ended. Our examination was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, and accordingly included such tests and other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

In our opinion, these financial statements present fairly the financial position of the Council as at December 31, 1981 and the results of its operations for the year then ended in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

Hamilton, Canada,  
February 19, 1982

Clarkson Gordon  
Chartered Accountants



# Committee Membership

## ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEES

### Finance:

Mike Welch, Chairman	*Robert G. Darling
Marjorie Baskin	David E. Seldon
Anthony Butler	

### Personnel:

David E. Seldon, Chairman	*Robert G. Darling
Marjorie Baskin	Mike Welch
Anthony Butler	

### Nominating:

David E. Seldon, Chairman	Ted McMeekin
Sheila Copps	Jack Moore
Robert G. Darling	Kenneth W. O'Neal
Dr. John Frid	Dave Shanks
Georgina Gibbons	Jack Southall

\*Resigned during the year

## STANDING COMMITTEES

### Community Development Advisory Committee:

Dick Capling, Chairman	Ted McMeekin
Heather Bullock	Dave Shanks
Shelagh Gill	Donna Slater
*Rob Kendrick	Jenny Street
Judith McCulloch	Jim Sykes

### C.D.A.C. Sub Committee:

#### Access to Information

Heather Bullock	Joana Kuris
Brian Hinkley	Cathy Moulder

### Research Advisory Committee:

Dr. Larry Chambers, Chairman	Lou Lanza
Robert Arnold	Dr. Paul Links
Grant Corbett	*Ruth Milner
Wanda Harmon	Nick Sidoruk
Dr. Barrie Humphrey	Margaret Strecker
Owen Jackson	

### Volunteer Bureau Advisory Committee:

Donna Marcaccio, Chairman	Mabel Duncan
Ted McMeekin, Vice-Chairman	Brian Hinkley
Terri Lee Seeley, Vice-Chairman	Sheila Johnson
*Rev. Melville Bailey	*Rob Kendrick
Frances Chesney	Alison Van Duzer

\*Resigned during the year



## AD HOC COMMITTEES

### Assisted Housing Task Force:

Tom Gallagher, Chairman  
Shirley Collins  
Doug Decker  
Dorothy Marchesan

David Mitchell  
\*Jenny Street  
Norma Walsh (consultant)

### Planning Model Committee:

Anthony Butler, Chairman  
Dick Capling  
Patty Fischer  
David Godley

David Mitchell  
Harry Penny  
Lou Sartor  
Dr. Barry Zimmerman

### Support Services Committee:

Joyce Caygill, Chairperson  
Margaret Buddo  
Barbara Cambridge  
Carole Capling  
Steve Dowley  
Steve Dwyer  
\*Mary Gibbon

Myrtle Kirstine  
Evelyn Tomlinson  
Noreen McNairn  
Donna Roe  
Marilyn Vallance  
Norma Walsh  
Lois Walton

### Task Force on Lodging Homes:

Dan Bissett  
Margaret Buddo  
Jean Cameron  
Joyce Caygill  
Carl deLottinville  
Linda Delsey

Helen Forbes  
Patty Leonard  
Pat Saunders  
Phyllis Turner  
Emmy Weisz  
\*Valerie Williams

## VOLUNTEER BUREAU COMMITTEES

### Publicity & Promotion:

Alison Van Duzer, Chairperson  
Paulette Baron  
Lillian Bayne  
Marilyn Branch  
Donna Elliott  
Rae Hickmore  
Sandra Larsen  
Beth McGuire  
\*David McLean

Mary McKenzie  
Margaret Richer  
\*Bud Reubottom  
Thalia Smith  
Debbi Straicher  
Linda Veitch  
Candy Welke  
Debbie Wotherspoon

### Consultants:

Marjorie Baskin  
Donna Marcaccio  
Bruce Mochrie  
Ross Robinson

\*Resigned during the year

### Interviewers:

Mabel Duncan, Chairperson  
Sondra Offord, Vice-chair  
Sheila Fung  
Joan Guildford  
James Harris  
Phyllis Harris

Irene Hill  
Dorothy Munroe  
\*Irene Mayhew  
Helaine Ortman  
Mary O'Keefe  
\*Helen Sinclair

### Policy Review Ad Hoc:

Donna Marcaccio,  
Chairperson

Sheila Johnson  
Mabel Duncan

### Recruitment & Referral Ad Hoc

Terri Lee Seeley,  
Chairperson  
Susan Goodman

Jim Harris  
Dorothy Munroe  
Sondra Offord



# Staff Members

<i>Executive Director:</i>	Mike Pennock
<i>Senior Research Associate:</i>	Jody Orr
<i>Community Development Consultant:</i>	Susan Goodman
<i>Volunteer Bureau Director:</i>	Linda Graff
<i>Research Associate:</i>	Kim Van Louwe
<i>Volunteer Bureau Program Consultant:</i>	Don Jaffray
<i>Secretarial Staff:</i>	Mary Swan, Office Manager Cora Cousins Edna Field Kay German Shurl Kocman Gilberte M. Marlin
<i>Volunteer Clerical Staff:</i>	Hilda Nelligan Jill Hill
<i>Student Staff – 1981-82:</i>	
McMaster School of Social Work	- Omega Bula Karen MacLeod Rob Smith
Mohawk College Bishop Ryan High School	- Bev Eybel - Sal Frisini
<i>Project Staff:</i>	Charlotte Bayne Tracy Brown Devi Caussy Rob Kendrick Donna McElroy Anne-Marie Parisi Joan Riggs April Takeda Denise Giacomelli Traini



# Board of Directors

1981 - 1982

## OFFICERS

Marjorie Baskin, President  
\*Robert G. Darling, Vice-President  
Anthony Butler, Vice-President  
A. Michael Welch, Treasurer  
Michael W. Pennock, Secretary  
David E. Seldon, Past President

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William N. Callaghan, Q.C.

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Bishop John C. Bothwell  
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Craig Fraser  
Hubert A. Martin, Q.C.  
Charles T. McNair  
Donald A. T. McFarlane

## DIRECTORS

### Term Ending 1982

+Anthony Butler  
+William Davis  
Larry Enkin  
Leonor Hart  
Elizabeth MacKay  
+Judith C. McCulloch  
Edgar C. Smee  
John Southall  
+A. Michael Welch

### Term Ending 1983

Jon Buttrum  
Sheila Johnson  
Grace Lewis  
Richard Leppert  
\*Hilda Mak  
Dorothy Marchesan  
Jack Norris  
W. Ross Robinson  
Jenny Street

### Term Ending 1984

+Marjorie Baskin  
+Dick Capling  
\*Robert G. Darling  
Rev. Rex Dolan  
Thomas J. Gallagher

David Gow  
Brian Hinkley  
Dr. Lily Oddie-Munro  
Louis Sartor

## Advisory Members

Bruce G. Mochrie

Norma Walsh

## Executive Members Not on Board

Donna Marcaccio  
Norma Walsh

Joyce Caygill  
Dr. Larry Chambers

+Members of Executive Committee

\*Resigned during the year



